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**Claims***We claim:*

1. A palm office assistant comprising:

a portable computing device;

10 a scanner integrated with the portable computing device, the scanner exposing to a scanning object and generating an image thereof when the portable computing device and the scanning object have a relative motion; and

wherein the portable computing device includes an optical  
15 recognition engine that receives the image and produces texts therefrom.

2. The palm office assistant of claim 1, wherein the portable computing  
device includes a display screen for displaying the texts from the optical  
20 recognition engine.

3. The palm office assistant of claim 2, wherein the optical recognition  
engine is a software module executing in the portable computing device.

25 4. The palm office assistant of claim 1, wherein the scanner is operatively controllable through the portable computing device.

5. The palm office assistant of claim 4, wherein an image resolution of the  
scanner is re-configurable through the portable computing device.

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- 5           6. The palm office assistant of claim 1, wherein the scanner includes an  
optical encoder that records the relative motion between the portable  
computing device and the scanning object.
- 10           7. The palm office assistant of claim 1, wherein the scanner is a contact  
image sensor (CIS) including a linear sensor, an array of optical lenses,  
and an illumination source.
- 15           8. A palm office assistant comprising:  
a portable computing device including a display screen and an  
interface;  
a pen-style scanner communicating with the portable computing  
device through the interface, the pen-style scanner scanning in  
an image of texts on a document and reproducing the texts  
through a build-in OCR engine; and  
20           wherein the texts are displayed on the display screen of the portable  
computing device.
- 25           9. A palm office assistant comprising:  
a portable computing device including a display screen;  
a linear scanner integrated with portable computing device and  
exposing to a scanning document, the linear scanner including a  
contact image sensor and generating an image when the linear  
scanner moves across an area of the scanning document, the  
area including texts, wherein the image is processed in the  
portable computing device executing an OCR engine to  
30           reproduce the texts; and

5                    wherein the texts can be displayed on the display screen when  
                     requested.

10                  10. The palm office assistant of claim 9, wherein the linear scanner further  
                     includes an optical encoder to synchronize the image being generated in  
                     the linear scanner.

15                  11. The palm office assistant of claim 9, wherein the portable computing  
                     device executes one or more application to parse the texts and fill in  
                     appropriate fields of one or more records maintained therein.

20                  12. The palm office assistant of claim 11, wherein the portable computing  
                     device is able to transport the one or more records to another device via  
                     a communication link.

25                  13. The palm office assistant of claim 12, wherein the communication link is  
                     either a wired link or a wireless link.

                     14. The palm office assistant of claim 9 wherein the portable computing  
                     device includes telephonic functions.

                     15. The palm office assistant of claim 9, wherein the area of the scanning  
                     document also includes a graphic representation.